

## CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512



January 29, 2007

Dear Retail Provider:

**Subject: The Power Source Disclosure Program's Annual Reporting Requirements**

This letter has been sent to individuals or entities on the mailing list for the Power Source Disclosure Program. As someone involved with this program you are probably familiar with the general statutory requirements of SB 1305 (Stats. 1997, ch.796, § 1) and implementing regulations regarding retail disclosure. All retail providers of electricity including, but not limited to investor-owned utilities, publicly owned electric utilities, electric service providers, irrigation districts, and cooperatives that serve California consumers are subject to provisions mandating disclosure of fuel mix information to consumers<sup>i</sup>. Every retail provider that sells electricity that is consumed in California and makes any claims that identify any of its electricity sources as different than net system power shall disclose these sources as specific purchases<sup>ii</sup>, and is subject to additional reporting requirements. **The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the following:**

- 1. Copies of Quarterly Power Content Labels for 2006 are due to the Energy Commission by March 1, 2007.**
- 2. Additional requirements are placed on Retail Providers who made claims of specific purchases in 2006. This letter provides you with information and guidance regarding the annual reporting requirements and to identify the upcoming report filing dates:**

**Report/Filing**

**Submit No Later Than**

2006 Annual Retail Providers Report	March 1, 2007
2006 Quarterly Power Content Labels	March 1, 2007
2006 Annual Power Content Label (to customers)	April 15, 2007
Independent Audit/Verification of 2006 Annual Power Content Label and Annual Report	June 1, 2007

**The Annual Report Filing**

Section 398.5 of the Public Utilities Code and Section 1394 of Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations require retail providers that claim specific purchases to submit an annual report to the Energy Commission on March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Retail providers are

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required to submit these annual reports for each electricity product offered during the previous calendar year for which a claim of specific purchases was made. Combining the requirements contained in the Public Utilities Code and the California Code of Regulations, the Annual Report must contain the following information:

1. The Registered Electric Service Provider Identification Number as assigned by either the Public Utilities Commission or the Energy Commission. The Energy Commission's assigned number is available on its web site at [http://www.energy.ca.gov/sb1305/provider\\_numbers.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sb1305/provider_numbers.html).
2. The kilowatt-hours *purchased or generated*, by generating facility and fuel type during the previous calendar year, consistent with the meter data, reported to the system operator.\*
3. For each electricity product offered for sale in California, the kilowatt-hours sold at retail during the previous calendar year.
4. For each electricity product offered for sale in California, a sample of each general disclosure provided to consumers during the previous calendar year if not already provided to the Energy Commission.
5. A comparison between total net purchases and total retail sales for all products along with an explanation of any discrepancies between total net purchases and total retail sales.

\*Retail providers that purchase electricity from a power pool that submits an Annual Report to the Energy Commission may provide this information by reference to the date and title of that filing submitted by the specified power pool.

The regulations require that each generating facility be identified using the identification number provided by U. S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) or, in the case that such an ID number does not exist, the following identification numbers may be used, if applicable:

- The California Energy Commission Renewable Portfolio Standard Certification Number.
- The California Energy Commission Renewable Energy Program Registration Number.
- The Energy Commission assigned unique number for the Certificate of Specific Generation Program.
- The Energy Commission's Plant Identification Number.
- The California ISO Meter ID Number.
- The California ISO Resource ID Number.
- The Qualifying Facility ID Number.
- Any Other Facility Identifier. If this type of number is used, please describe it.

Previous versions of the SB 1305 Annual Report included CEC-RPS-Track forms which are filed by retail providers that are required to report to the Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission to comply with that process. Since this form is currently being modified by the Energy Commission, it will not be included in the 2006 Annual Report packet.

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The regulations further require that this information be provided electronically, in a tabular spreadsheet or database format that allows identification of separate fields or cells for the information by product, generating facility, and fuel type. Finally, the regulations require each retail provider that makes a claim of specific purchases to provide an attestation, signed under penalty of perjury, that the kilowatt hours claimed by the retail provider as specific purchases during the previous calendar year were sold once and only once to retail consumers. Because there have been several questions regarding this matter, we would like to emphasize that **only retail providers that made claims of specific purchases during the 2006 calendar year must submit an Annual Report by March 1, 2007.** If you have any doubt about whether your company should submit one of these reports, please call us at one of the numbers listed at the end of this letter.

The recommended format for the Annual Report (including the form for the attestation) is available as an Excel file that can be downloaded from the Energy Commission's Web site at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sb1305/>. Simply download the file off the Internet, enter the relevant information in the spaces indicated, and e-mail the completed forms file to [sb1305@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:sb1305@energy.state.ca.us) by March 1, 2007. Because the filing also contains an attestation, please mail a copy of the filing including the signed the attestation to:

Jason J. Orta  
Dockets 00-SB-1305  
California Energy Commission  
1516 9<sup>th</sup> Street, MS-4  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Dockets Office of the California Energy Commission must receive the original copies of the forms that were filed electronically by 4:00 p.m., March 1, 2007.

If your company does not have Internet access but would like an electronic copy of the file, you can obtain an electronic copy of the spreadsheet by submitting a written request to Jason Orta at the address above. Late requests will not change the required filing date of March 1, 2007.

If your company does not possess a recent copy of Excel (version 5.0 or later) or otherwise cannot file electronically, the Energy Commission will waive the requirement that the report be submitted in an electronic format and accept paper copies of the completed forms with your filing. The recently revised forms are available from our web site at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sb1305/> and printed copies are available upon request. To meet the March 1, 2007 filing date, a copy of the Annual Report may be faxed to Jason Orta at (916) 653-8251. Copies of the Annual Report may be faxed as long as the original copy of the Annual Report, including the signed attestation, follows by mail and is received at the California Energy Commission Docket Office by 4:00 PM on March 1, 2007.

### **The Annual Power Content Label**

Retail providers are required to provide their customers with a power content label containing an annual disclosure for each electricity product for which the provider made a claim of specific purchases during the previous calendar year. This annual disclosure must be provided to customers by April 15 each calendar year using a format specified in the Energy Commission's regulations. Copies of the label are also to be filed with the Dockets Office. The address for the Energy Dockets office is listed earlier in this letter. More information about the format and content requirements for the Annual Power Content Label can be found in either the Energy Commission regulations or the "Retail Disclosure in Plain English" document on the Energy Commission's web site at [http://www.energy.ca.gov/regulations/retail\\_disclosure.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/regulations/retail_disclosure.html).

### **The Independent Verification Process**

In an effort to ensure the accuracy of marketing claims to consumers and to prevent the misuse of public funds, the Energy Commission's regulations require program participants to have their electricity purchases and sales independently verified. Current regulations require an independent "audit" of the Annual Power Content Label and the Annual Report by June 1 each calendar year. In general, the regulations require the auditor to audit the following:

1. the fuel types used by each generating facility identified in the Annual Report,
2. contracts and/or certificates of specific generation necessary to trace sale of electricity from the generator to the retailer, and
3. retail sales to consumers, to verify the accuracy of both the annual fuel mix disclosed to customers and the Annual Report.

The regulations also require an independent "audit" of any renewable power pool that is referenced in a retail provider's Annual Report in lieu of a specific generator.

The Energy Commission's regulations allow the use a set of "agreed-upon procedures" to meet the verification requirements. The agreed-upon procedures are essentially a set of instructions or protocols expected to guide the accountant through the necessary verification process.

### **The Reconciliation of Retailer Claims Report**

Following receipt of the audited Annual Report in June 2007, the Energy Commission will prepare a Reconciliation Report that is submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission in October. The Reconciliation Report compares the level of Specific Purchase Claims to the actual level of generation by generating source. This public document will include an appendix that outlines the progress of retail providers in fulfilling California's Power Source Disclosure regulations along with verification that retail providers are meeting claims made to their customers. This report will include checkboxes next to the retail providers' names indicating whether or not they claim specific purchases,

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submitted quarterly and annual power content labels, and submitted SB 1305 Annual Reports if they claim specific purchases. This appendix also includes a column that identifies the renewable component of each retail provider's default product. The renewable component for retail providers listed in this column will be determined using the SB 1305 Power Disclosure Program definitions.

Because of heightened interest in the RPS, the Energy Commission has published the 2003 Power Content Labels that it received on the Web site at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sb1305/retailproviders.html> and is working to publish the 2006 and 2007 Power Content Labels on the Commission's Web site.

### **Renewable Portfolio Standard Procurement Verification Report**

The procurement information submitted to the Energy Commission in the Annual Reports and audits will be used by the Energy Commission in preparing the annual *Renewables Portfolio Standard Procurement Verification* report (*Verification Report*). The procurement information in the SB 1305 Annual Reports will be used to support the Energy Commission's verification that RPS procurement has not been double counted. Staff also utilizes the procurement information submitted to the Energy Commission by the Investor-Owned Utilities on the CEC-RPS-Track forms.

The *Verification Report* is an annual report which does the following for the previous calendar year: verify that the amount of renewable energy procured by each investor-owned-utility (IOU) is RPS-eligible; verify, to the extent possible, that the energy procured was counted only once; quantify the amount of energy that qualifies as incremental geothermal, and compare the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) annual procurement targets for each IOU with the Energy Commission's findings for how much procurement qualifies towards the targets. Although the Energy Commission does not determine whether or not the IOUs have met their annual RPS targets, this report is intended to inform the CPUC's determination on the IOU's compliance. Future *RPS Verification Reports* may verify the RPS procurement of energy service providers and community choice aggregators.

I hope that this letter has been an effective reminder of the upcoming reporting requirements and of potential changes to the program. As always, Energy Commission staff is available to answer any of your questions. Questions regarding the reporting requirements should be directed to Jason Orta at (916) 653-5851 or by e-mail at [jorta@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:jorta@energy.state.ca.us).

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Sincerely,

Jason J. Orta  
Power Source Disclosure Program  
Energy Technology Development Division  
Enclosures (2)

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<sup>i</sup> For a description of the retail disclosure requirements in the Public Utilities Code and the California Code of Regulations, look for the “Retail Disclosure in Plain English” document on the Energy Commission’s Web Site or contact the Energy Commission at the phone number / e-mail address given at the end of this letter.

<sup>ii</sup> Specific purchases are defined as “electricity transactions which are traceable to specific generation sources by any auditable contract trail or equivalent, such as a tradable commodity system, that provides commercial verification that the electricity source claimed has been sold once and only once to a retail consumer.” (Public Utilities Code, Section 398.1(b))

A “claim of specific purchases” or a “claim that identifies any of a retail provider’s electricity sources as different from net system power” is defined as “...any statement that is made to consumers by a retail provider for the purpose of marketing any electricity product and that contains either:

- (1) a reference to use of an eligible renewable to generate, in part or in whole, the electricity product offered for sale by the retail provider, other than disclosure of net system power; or
- (2) a statement that a specific attribute of the electricity product related to the generator creates an environmental effect.”

(Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1391 as amended, November, 2000).